UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/272,922	03/19/1999	SCOTT A. LLOYD	JAIC.66141	6257

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EXAMINER
ANYA, CHARLES E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2126	

DATE MAILED: 08/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3/_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _01 June 2004_.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) _72-108_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) _72-108_ is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 72-108 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3.   **Claims 72-96 and 100-108 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being**

unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,319,548 to Germain in view of U.S. Pat. No.

5,781,892 to Hunt et al.

4.   As to claim 72, Germain teaches a golf tee-time reservation system for

implementing seamless real time access to one or more golf courses (figure 2 Col. 5 Ln.

9 – 40), said system comprising: means for inputting a tee-time request (User Interface

14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9), means for issuing one or more tee-time transactions to one or more

golf course reservation systems (Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9), means for displaying one or more

tee-time schedules, and means for reserving one or more tee-times from said one or

more golf course in real time (Col. 6 Ln. 10 – 33, figure 8 (Step 154) Col. 12 Ln. 50 –

54).

5.   Germain is silent with reference to means for interfacing a protocol with one or more different protocols.

6.   Hunt teaches means for interfacing a protocol with one or more different protocols (Gateway Application 22 Col. 4 Ln. 39 - 67, Col. 5 Ln. 1 - 67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 - 8).

7.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Hunt and Germain because the teaching of Hunt would improve the system of Germain by providing a means for conveying application commands and handling data normalization (Hunt Col. 5 Ln. 11 - 22).

8.   As to claim 73, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72, wherein said means for inputting a tee-time request comprises a graphical user interface (User Interface 14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9).

9.   As to claim 74, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 73, wherein said graphical user interface comprises a networked based interface (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 21).

10.   As to claim 75, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 74, wherein said networked based interface is the Internet (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 8).

11.   As to claim 76, Hunt teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72,

wherein said means for interfacing a protocol with one or more different protocols

comprises a computer server (Gateway Application 22 Col. 4 Ln. 39 - 67, Col. 5 Ln. 1 -

67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 - 8).

12.   As to claim 77, Hunt teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 76,

wherein said computer server comprises of software translation package for interfacing

the protocol with the one or more different protocols (Gateway Application 22

Col. 4 Ln. 39 - 67, Col. 5 Ln. 1 - 67, Col. 6 Ln. 1 - 8).

13.   As to claim 78, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 76,

wherein said computer server is coupled with said graphical user interface (User

Interface 14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9).

14.   As to claim 79, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 76,

wherein said computer server is one or more computing components (figure 2 Col. 5 Ln.

9 – 40).

15.   As to claim 80, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72,

wherein said means for issuing one or more tee-time transactions to one or more golf

course reservation systems utilizes real time concurrent processing for obtaining one or

more tee-time schedules from said one or more golf course reservation systems

("...every golfer..." Col. 4 Ln. 61 – 67, Col. 7 Ln. 17 – 18).

16.   As to claim 81, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim

80, wherein said real time concurrent processing is performed using a central

processing unit (CPU 10 Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 18).

17.   As to claim 82, Hunt teaches The golf tee-time reservation system of claim 81,

wherein said central processing unit divides said one or more tee-time transactions into

multiple subprocesses for processing within one clock cycle ("...transactional mode..."

Col. 6 Ln. 9 - 21, Col. 6 Ln. 41 - 56).

18.   As to claim 83, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72,

wherein said means for displaying one or more tee-time schedules is displayed using

said graphical user interface (Col. 2 Ln. 32 – 41, User Interface 14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 19).

19.   As to claim 84, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72,

wherein said means for reserving one or more tee-time schedules is an available tee-

time for said one or more tee-time schedules (figure 8 Col. 12 Ln. 41 – 54).

20.   As to claim 85, Germain teaches the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 72,

wherein said means for reserving one or more tee-time schedules is scheduled by a

user (figure 8 Ln. 24 – 31).

21.   As to claim 86, the golf tee-time reservation system of claim 85, wherein said

user selects said one or more tee-time schedules using said graphical user interface

(figure 8 Ln. 24 – 54).

22.   As to claim 87, Germain teaches an external golf tee-time reservation system for

implementing seamless real time access to one or more internal golf course reservation

systems (figure 2 Col. 5 Ln. 9 – 40), said system comprising: a user input module

having an interface capable of receiving one or more tee-time requests (User Interface

Control Module 60 Col. 7 Ln. 39 – 41), an interface module processing said request as

real time transactions (Main Program Module 50 Col. 7 Ln. 26 – 29), and a vendor

service module linking said external golf tee-time reservation system to said one or

more internal golf reservation systems (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 21). Also see the rejection of

claim 72.

23.   As to claim 88, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 87, wherein said user input module comprises a networked based interface (Col.

7 Ln. 5 – 21).

24.   As to claim 89, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 88, wherein said networked based interface is the Internet (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 8).

25.   As to claim 90, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 87, wherein said user input module is a terminal that receives said one or more

tee-time requests (Col. 2 Ln. 32 – 41).

26.   As to claim 91, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 90, wherein said terminal comprises a graphical user interface (Col. 2 Ln. 32 – 41,

User Interface 14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9).

27.   As to claim 92, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 90, wherein said terminal displays information to a user (Col. 2 Ln. 32 – 41, User

Interface 14 Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9).

28.   As to claim 93, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 87, wherein said interface module is coupled to said user interface module (Main

Program Module 50 Col. 7 Ln. 26 – 29).

29.   As to claim 94, he external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 87, wherein

said interface module comprises one or more computer servers (figure 1 Col. 4 Ln. 55 –

67, figure 2 Col. 5 Ln. 28 – 33).

30.   As to claim 95, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 94, wherein said one or more computer servers is a database server (figure 1 Col. 4 Ln. 55 – 67, figure 2 Col. 5 Ln. 28 – 33).

31.   As to claim 96, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 95, wherein said database server provides information upon request (figure 8 Col. 12 Ln. 24 – 54).

32.   As to claim 100, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 94, wherein said one or more computer servers is a network server (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 21).

33.   As to claim 101, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 100, wherein said one or more network servers establishes a communication link to said vendor service module (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 21).

34.   As to claim 102, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 94, wherein said one or more computer servers is a customer server (Col. 5 Ln. 29 – 41).

35.   As to claim 103, Hunt teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 102, wherein said customer server administers said tee-time transactions by sending said tee-time transactions to said one or more computer server (Gateway Application 22 Col. 3 Ln. 32 - 62).

36.   As to claims 104 and 105, see the rejection of claim 77.

37.   As to claim 106, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 87, wherein said one or more internal golf course reservation systems comprises individualized reservation software for coupling to said external golf tee-time reservation system (figure 3 Col. 7 Ln. 22 – 54).

38.   As to claim 107, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 87, wherein said vendor service module comprises a pre-established network for coupling said one or more internal golf course reservation systems to said external golf tee-time reservation system (Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 21).

39.   As to claim 108, Germain teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 107, wherein said pre-established network is coupled to said user interface module (Col. 6 Ln. 1 – 9, Col. 7 Ln. 5 – 8).

40.   Claims 97-99 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over U.S. Pat. No. 5,319,548 to Germain in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,781,892 to Hunt

et al. as applied to claim 94 above, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,832,451 to

Flake et al.

41.   As to claim 97, Germain as modified by Hunt is silent with reference to the

external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 94, wherein said one or more

computer servers is a system service application server.

42.   Flake teaches the one or more computer servers as a system service application

server (Process Server 22 Col. 4 Ln. 26 - 49).

43.   It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to combine the teachings of Flake, Hunt and Germain because the

teaching of Flake would improve the system of Germain as modified by Hunt by

providing a means for processing command information (Flake Col. 4 Ln. 26 - 27).

44.   As to claim 98, Flake teaches the external golf tee-time reservation system of

claim 97, wherein said system service application server comprises administrative tools

for regulating system resources (Administration Component 32 Col. 5 Ln. 13 - 45).

45.   As to claim 99, Although neither Germain, Hunt nor Flake explicitly teaches the

external golf tee-time reservation system of claim 97, wherein said system service

application server provides administrative reports one of ordinary skill in the art would

have known at the time of the invention to implement the administration component 32

to include administrative reporting so that system administrator could monitor and

catalog system performance.

Response to Arguments

46.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 72 -108 have been considered but

are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Charles E Anya whose telephone number is (703) 305-

3411. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00) First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, An Meng-Ai can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Charles E Anya
Examiner
Art Unit 2126

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